

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR

The attached letter from [redacted]  
was received by the General Counsel.

Recommend that [redacted] grade be  
changed from GS-17 to GS-18 effective upon his  
arrival in the Far East.

[redacted]  
D. A. WHITE  
Acting Deputy Director  
(Administration)

14 Jul 52  
21 July 52 - 14

14 Jul 52  
New through I continue to (DATE)  
explore the prevalence of the "prestige participation  
for success" GRADES.  
FORM NO. 10-101 JAN 1952 (47)

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Mr. Lawrence R. Houston  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Larry:

I am taking this matter up with you, since you were the one who handled the details of signing me on with the Agency last February.

Perhaps you will recall that when you asked me what GS rating the Director had mentioned for me in my initial talks with him, I told you I didn't have the faintest idea but that the Director had spoken of an assignment similar [redacted] and comparable financially. He said the salary was about \$14,500, comparable to that in both pay and allowance of a Lieutenant General or Vice Admiral on active duty, plus the usual field allowances which we discussed briefly, not in detail.

Then I suggested that you find out from General Smith the classification number and I accepted the GS-17 the following day when I signed up, assuming of course that it was the same as Truscott's.

Now I am puzzled on learning over here [redacted] is a GS-18 after a number of complicating factors had been considered.

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Perhaps on the basis of this information above you can discuss it with Mr. Walter Reid Wolf and make a satisfactory adjustment. If not, the following factors should be considered before taking the matter up with the Director.

First, almost coincident with my arrival [redacted] that area was removed from the "hardship" classification with a consequent pay reduction of \$1,300 per year. Mind you, I gave up all of my retired pay and most of my civilian earnings to join up, as I had not retired "physically" which makes an important difference.

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Beyond the financial consideration--and I haven't an idea of what the difference is between 17 and 18 as I write--it is important that our Senior Representatives have as much precedence background in comparison with State Department and Armed Forces personnel, as possible. And the GS-18 rating compares with a Lieutenant General (Vice Admiral) in matters of precedence which are most important at field stations where "our" people find it difficult to get recognition anyway. General Truscott will tell you that it is his military rank that does more than

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anything else to establish himself and his official position, with other agencies. A reduction of stature by failure to provide appropriate GS rating can have detrimental effect on agency prestige.

Take this up with the appropriate people and let me know the outcome.

25X1 I will be [redacted] 8 to 16 July and then start back, arriving in Washington 29 July. It has been a most interesting and helpful trip.  
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Kindest personal regards

Sincerely,

[redacted]

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